

# 2021 COLUMBUS DISTRICTING COMMISSION

Reapportionment Plan for Council and  
School Board District Boundaries  
October 28, 2021

# Agenda

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- Purpose of Commission & Background Information
- Timeline
- 2020 Census Data
- Review of Existing City Council Districts
- Mapping Options

# Requirements of the City Charter

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- Section 6-102 of the City Charter requires the following:
  - Formulation of a 17-member commission
  - Six months after the federal population census is released
    - The Commission is to recommend a plan for the reapportionment of the Council/School Board districts
    - Census data was released on August 26, 2021
    - Deadline is February 26, 2022 (**IF** the Council ordinance is **NOT** adopted in 2021)
  - The report must contain the following:
    - District boundaries that are contiguous and compact
    - Boundary lines shall be based on center lines of streets or other well-defined boundaries
    - A reasonable effort to have the same amount of population in each district
    - A map of proposed districts as well as district descriptions
  - Report shall be filed with the Clerk of Council and treated as a proposed ordinance to the City Council

# Requirements of the City Charter

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- Upon receiving the report, Council must:
  - Follow its procedures for adopting the proposed ordinance, which includes the publication of the map and the descriptions of each district
  - Enact a redistricting ordinance within six months
    - Failure to enact an ordinance within this time frame automatically causes the Commission's report to be enacted
- Redistricting ordinances do not apply to any elections within six months of adoption

# Other Factors To Consider

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- Legal Requirements
  - Compliance with US and GA Constitutions
  - Compliance with the Voting Rights Act of 1965 as amended
    - Potential for minority representation on City Council
    - Cannot dilute the minority population strength through newly reconstructed districts
  - Equal Protection Clause of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment
  - “One Person, One Vote”

# Other Factors To Consider

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- Legal Requirements
  - Georgia Senate Bill 177
    - Requires local Council Districts to be submitted to the State's Office of Legislative and Congressional Reapportionment before the governing authority can adopt the new districts.
    - The Office will provide technical review and certify the plan.
    - After certification and Council's adoption of the City Districts, a local act of the General Assembly will be needed to approve the new districts; but does not have to be done within the six months required by the Charter for the Districts to be used in the next election. The six months runs from the Council's adoption of the districting ordinance.

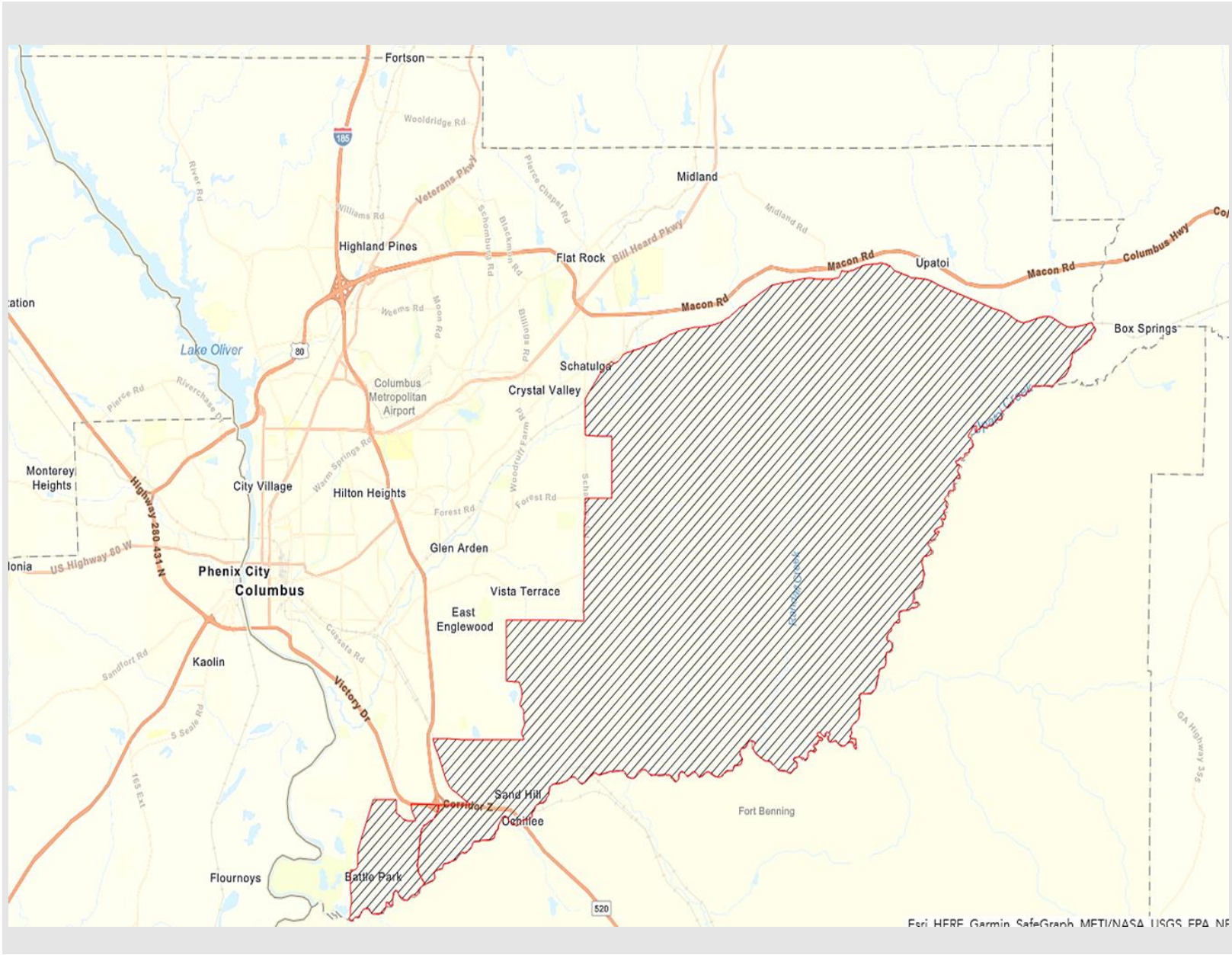
# Timeline

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- **MAY 24, 2022 ELECTION - TARGET DATE**
  - October 28, 2021 – Commission Meeting (Live on CCGTV)
  - November 1-4, 2021 – Dates of possible Commission Meetings
  - November 5, 2021 – Redistricting Commission submits approved plan to City Council
  - November 9, 2021 – Last Day to submit to the State Reapportionment Office (minimum 5-day review required)
  - November 9, 2021 – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading by City Council (Public Hearing)
  - November 16, 2021 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading by City Council

# 2020 Census Data

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## 2020 Census Data

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# 2020 Census For Columbus

- Total Population 206,922
- Fort Benning -7,108
- Actual Total 199,814

# 2020 Census Data

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• Black	96,934	48.51%
• White	74,876	37.47%
• Hispanic	15,161	7.59%
• Asian	6,587	3.30%
• Two or More	2,092	1.05%
• Native Amer	2,012	1.01%
• Other	1,656	0.83%
• Pacific Islander	496	0.25%
• TOTAL	199,814	

# District Population Goals

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- Each Council/School District should have the same amount of population {199,814 citizens (excludes Fort Benning)}

$$\frac{199,814 \text{ (2020 Columbus Population*)}}{8 \text{ Council Districts}} = 24,977$$

Ideal Population Number Per Council/School Board District

\* Population figure does not include Fort Benning

## Actual District Population Range

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- Each district will NOT be able to meet an “ideal” population range
- State Legislative & Congressional Reapportionment Office recommends a variance or allowance of + or – 1%
- A variance of 250 + or – would be acceptable
- The population range for each district should be between 24,727 and 25,227

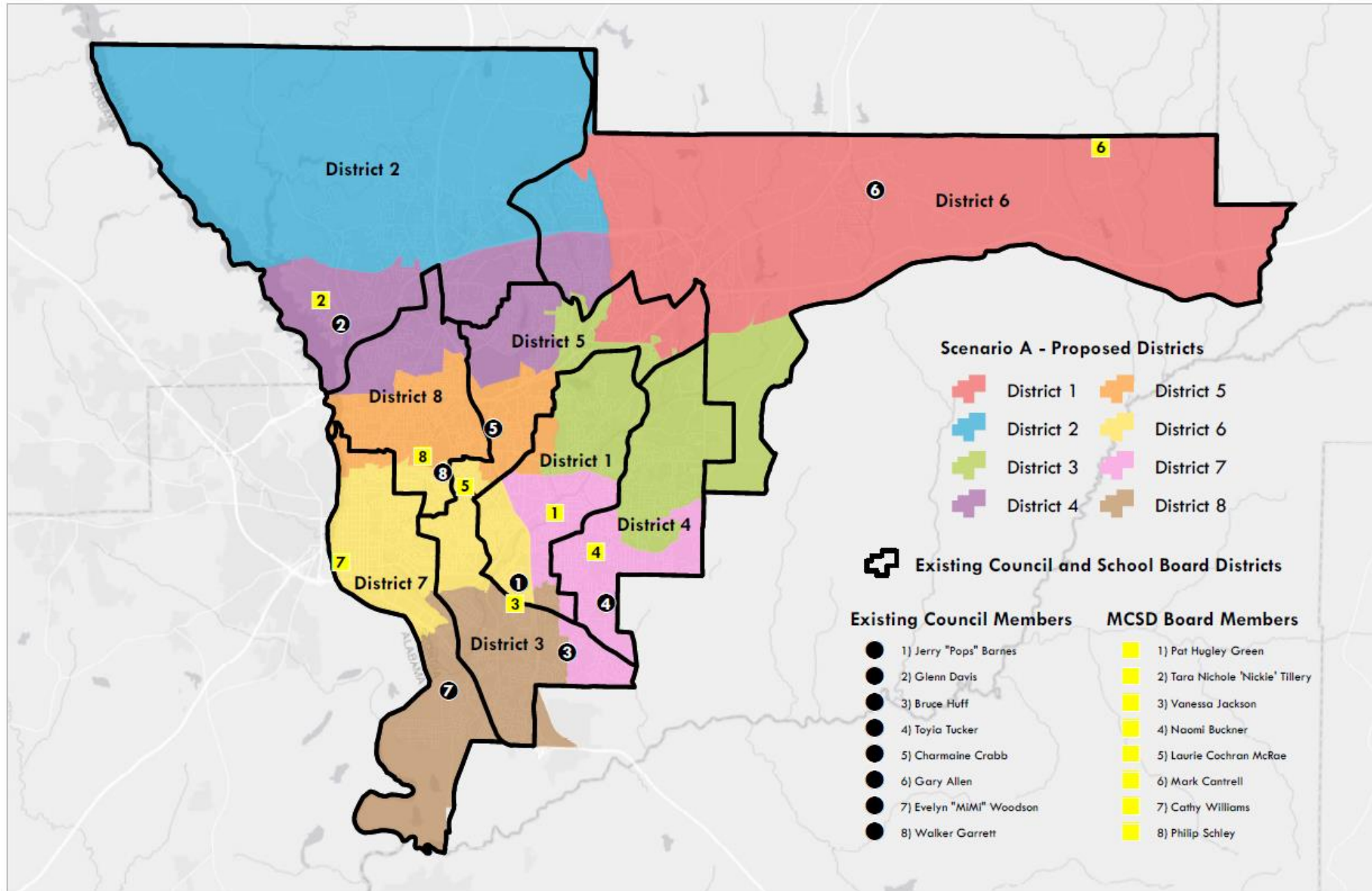
# Mapping The Districts

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- Potential District Scenarios to Consider:
  - Scenario A
    - Does **NOT** take into account existing districts or incumbents; this option starts at the eastern county line and moves east to west until target population is met
  - Scenario B
    - Meets target population percentage and withstands review by the state legislative reapportionment office but does not take into account existing incumbents.
  - Scenario C
    - A hybrid of Scenario B, with an attempt to follow major roads and water features to create smoother boundaries and attempts to not split a subdivision. This scenario maintains each incumbent in their district.
- The state is seeking incumbent protection as best as possible

# Proposed Council Districts Scenario A

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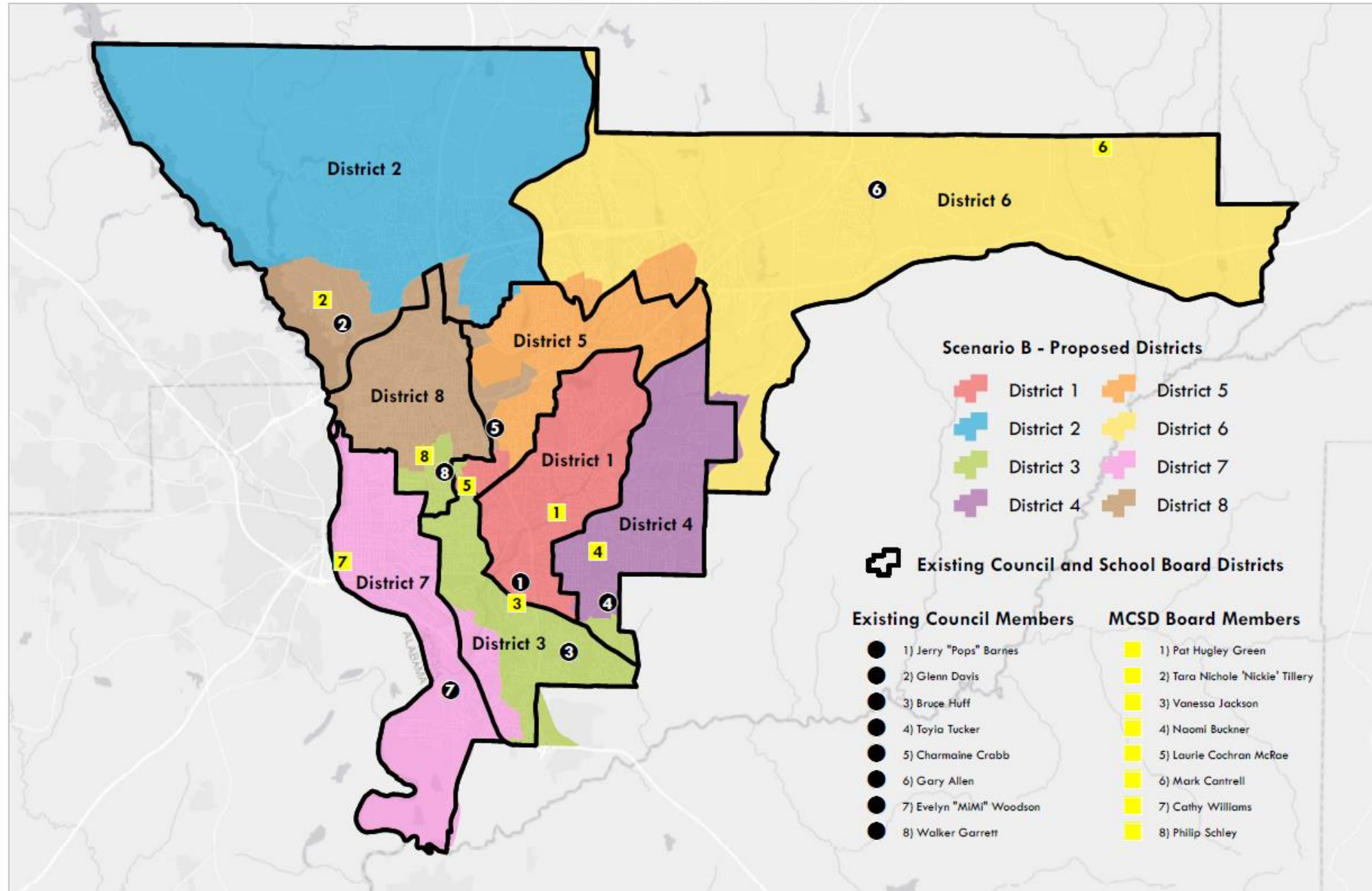
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# Proposed Council Districts Scenario B

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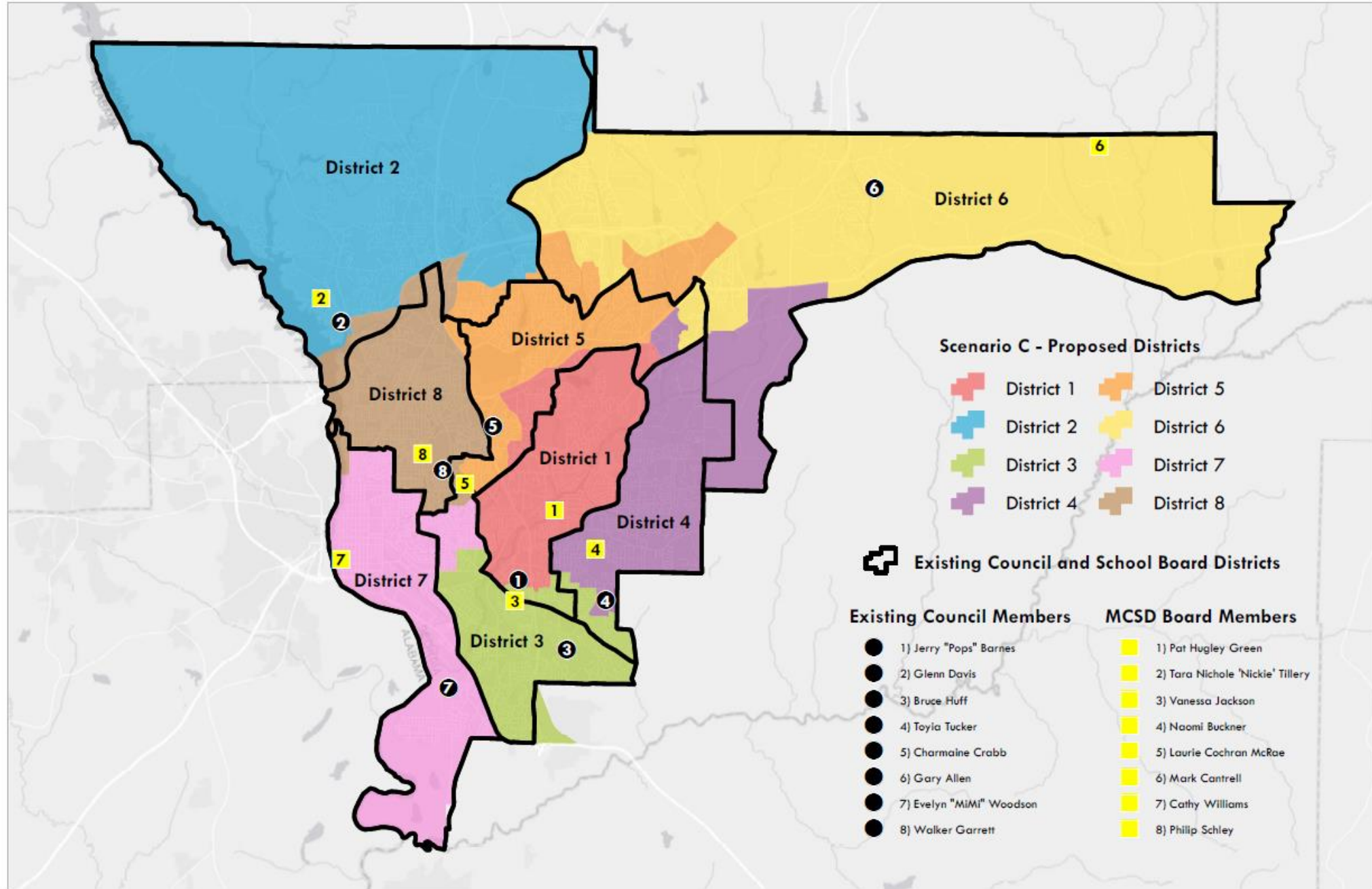


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# Proposed Council Districts Scenario C

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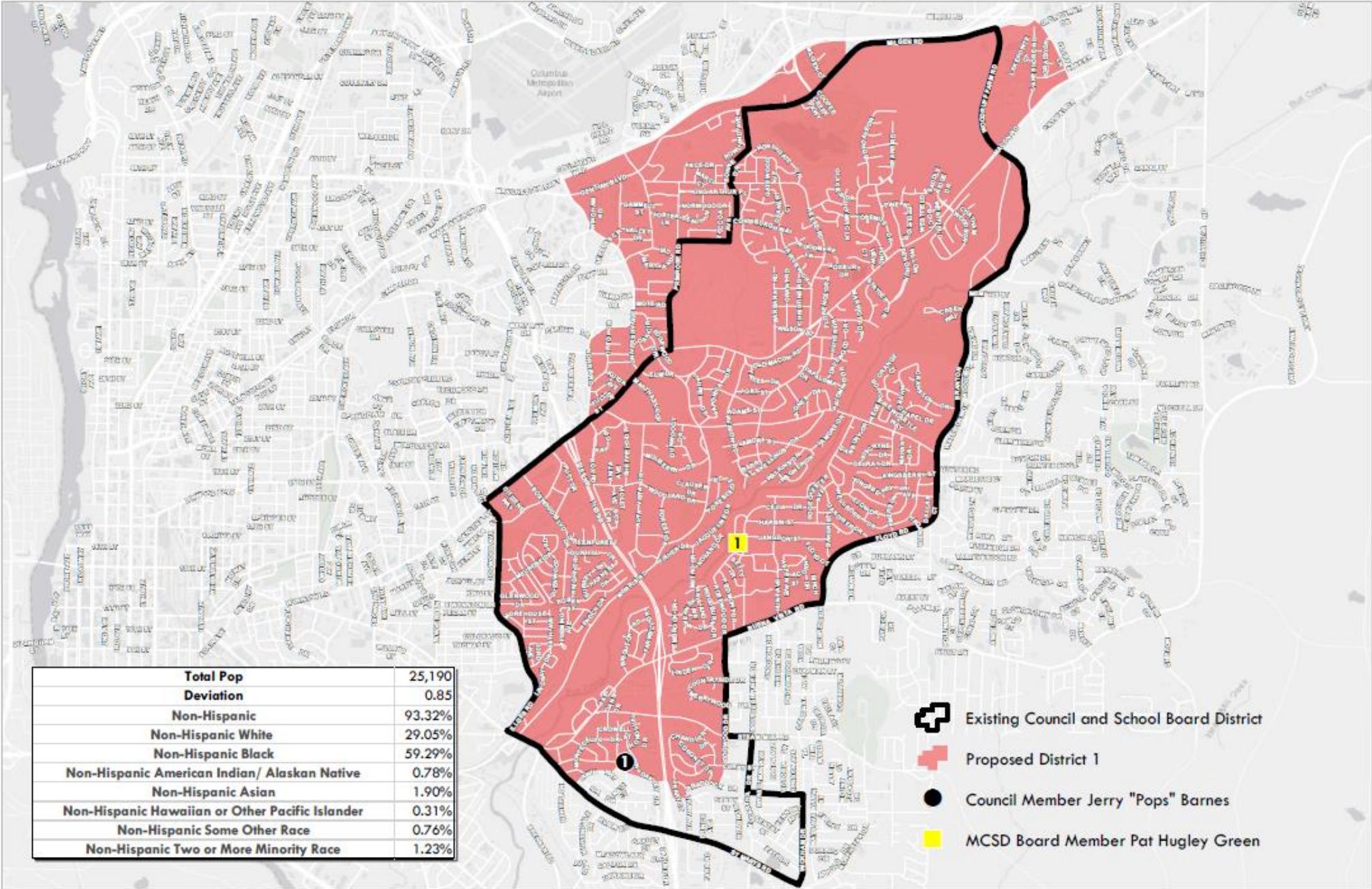


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# Proposed Council Districts Scenario C - District 1

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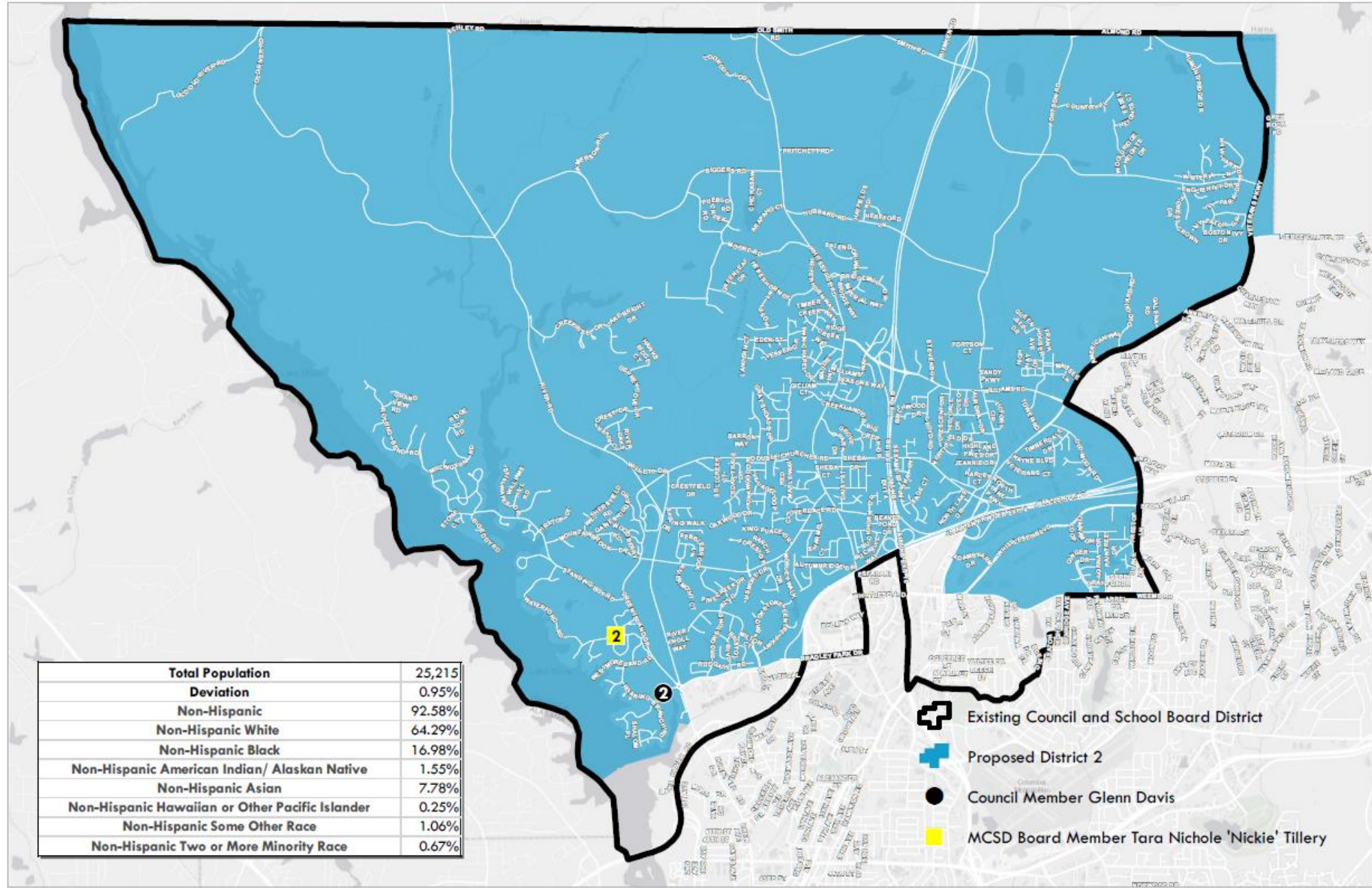
# District 1 – Comparison of Existing District with 2010 Census and 2020 Census with Existing Boundary and Scenario C Boundary

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	EXISTING DISTRICT		EXISTING DISTRICT		SCENARIO C DISTRICT	
	2010	2010 %	2020	2020 %	2020	2020 %
Black	14,399	62.77%	15,203	64.85%	14,936	59.29%
White	6,627	28.89%	5,697	24.30%	7,317	29.05%
Hispanic	1,069	4.66%	1,439	6.14%	1,683	6.68%
Asian	399	1.74%	421	1.80%	479	1.90%
Two or More	189	0.82%	308	1.31%	310	1.23%
Native Amer	123	0.54%	150	0.64%	196	0.78%
Other	71	0.31%	152	0.65%	191	0.76%
Pacific Islander	62	0.27%	74	0.32%	78	0.31%
TOTAL	22,939	100%	23,444	100%	25,190	100%

# Proposed Council Districts Scenario C - District 2

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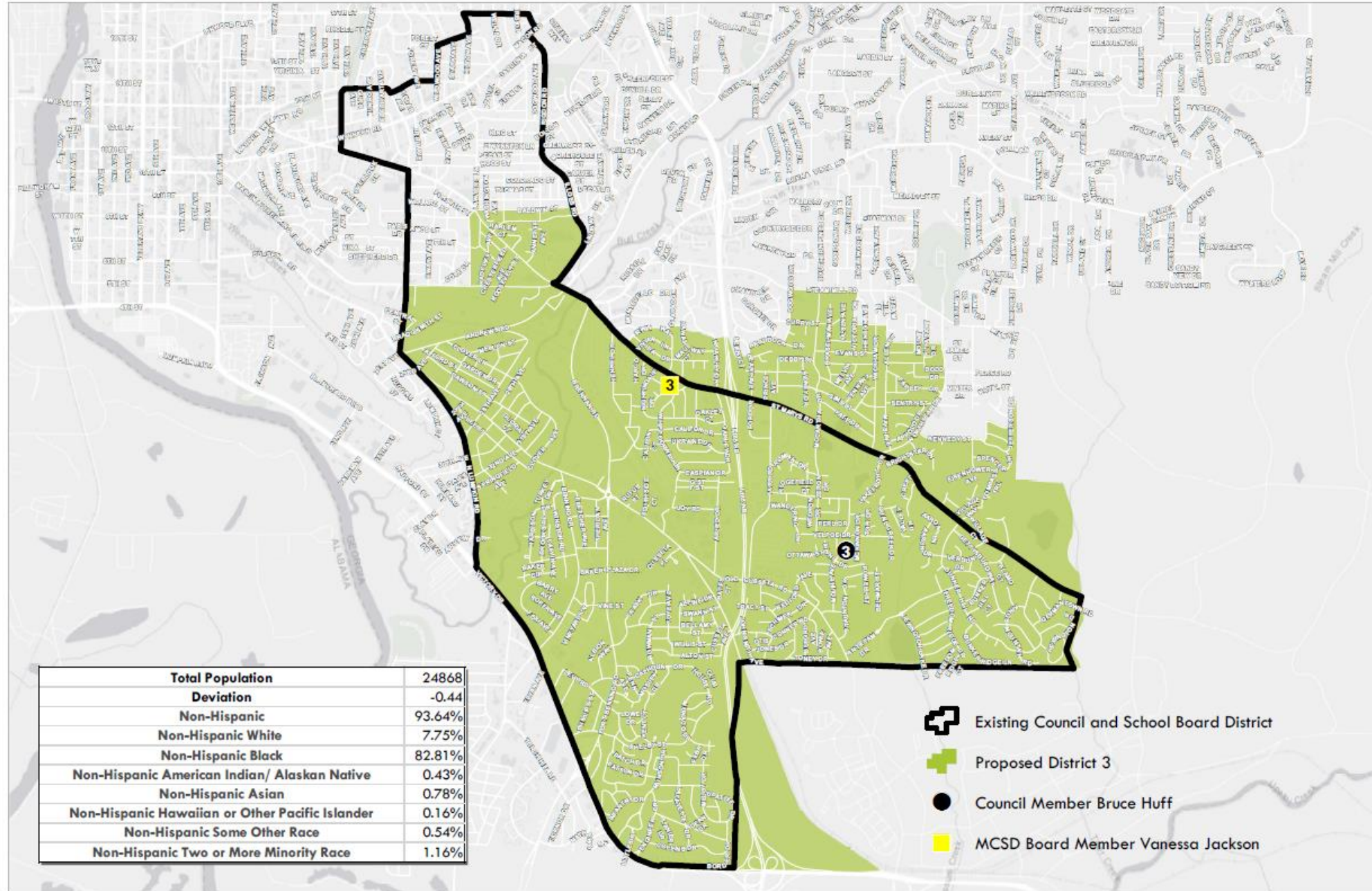
# District 2 – Comparison of Existing District with 2010 Census and 2020 Census with Existing Boundary and Scenario C Boundary

2021  
COLUMBUS  
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COMMISSION

	EXISTING DISTRICT		EXISTING DISTRICT		SCENARIO C DISTRICT	
	2010	2010 %	2020	2020 %	2020	2020 %
Black	2,800	12.28%	4,657	16.83%	4,282	16.98%
White	17,314	75.96%	17,873	64.58%	16,210	64.29%
Hispanic	1,208	5.30%	2,095	7.57%	1,870	7.42%
Asian	1,133	4.97%	2,056	7.43%	1,961	7.78%
Two or More	75	0.33%	191	0.69%	170	0.67%
Native Amer	117	0.51%	438	1.58%	391	1.55%
Other	89	0.39%	298	1.08%	267	1.06%
Pacific Islander	58	0.25%	68	0.25%	64	0.25%
TOTAL	22,794	100%	27,676	100%	25,215	100%

# Proposed Council Districts Scenario C - District 3

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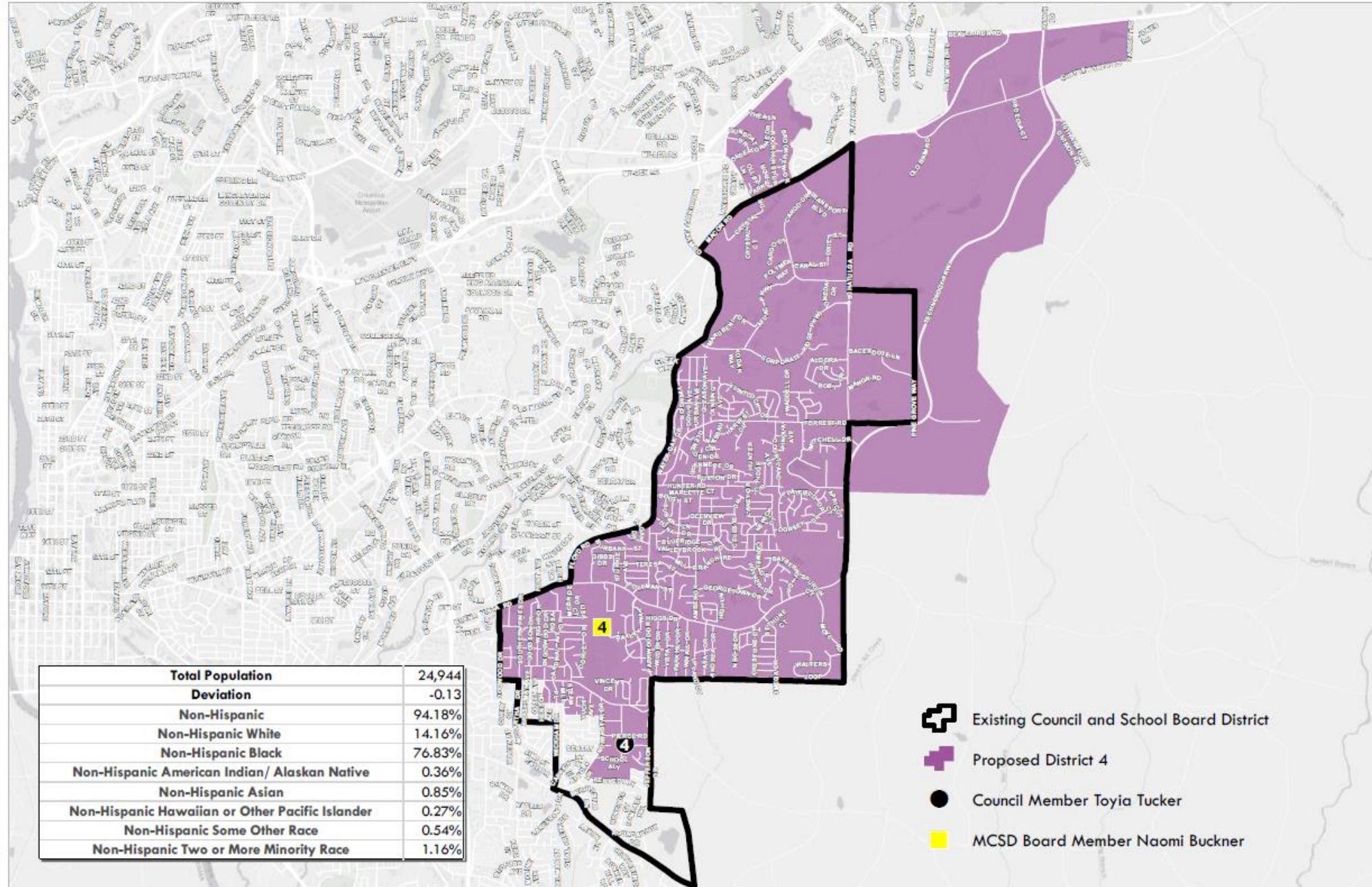
# District 3 – Comparison of Existing District with 2010 Census and 2020 Census with Existing Boundary and Scenario C Boundary

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	EXISTING DISTRICT		EXISTING DISTRICT		SCENARIO C DISTRICT	
	2010	2010 %	2020	2020 %	2020	2020 %
Black	18,811	82.73%	20,078	80.32%	20,594	82.81%
White	2,228	9.80%	2,494	9.98%	1,928	7.75%
Hispanic	1,283	5.64%	1,653	6.61%	1,582	6.36%
Asian	106	0.47%	172	0.69%	195	0.78%
Two or More	174	0.77%	292	1.17%	289	1.16%
Native Amer	72	0.32%	130	0.52%	107	0.43%
Other	27	0.12%	147	0.59%	134	0.54%
Pacific Islander	36	0.16%	30	0.12%	39	0.16%
TOTAL	22,737	100%	24,996	100%	24,868	100%

# Proposed Council Districts Scenario C - District 4

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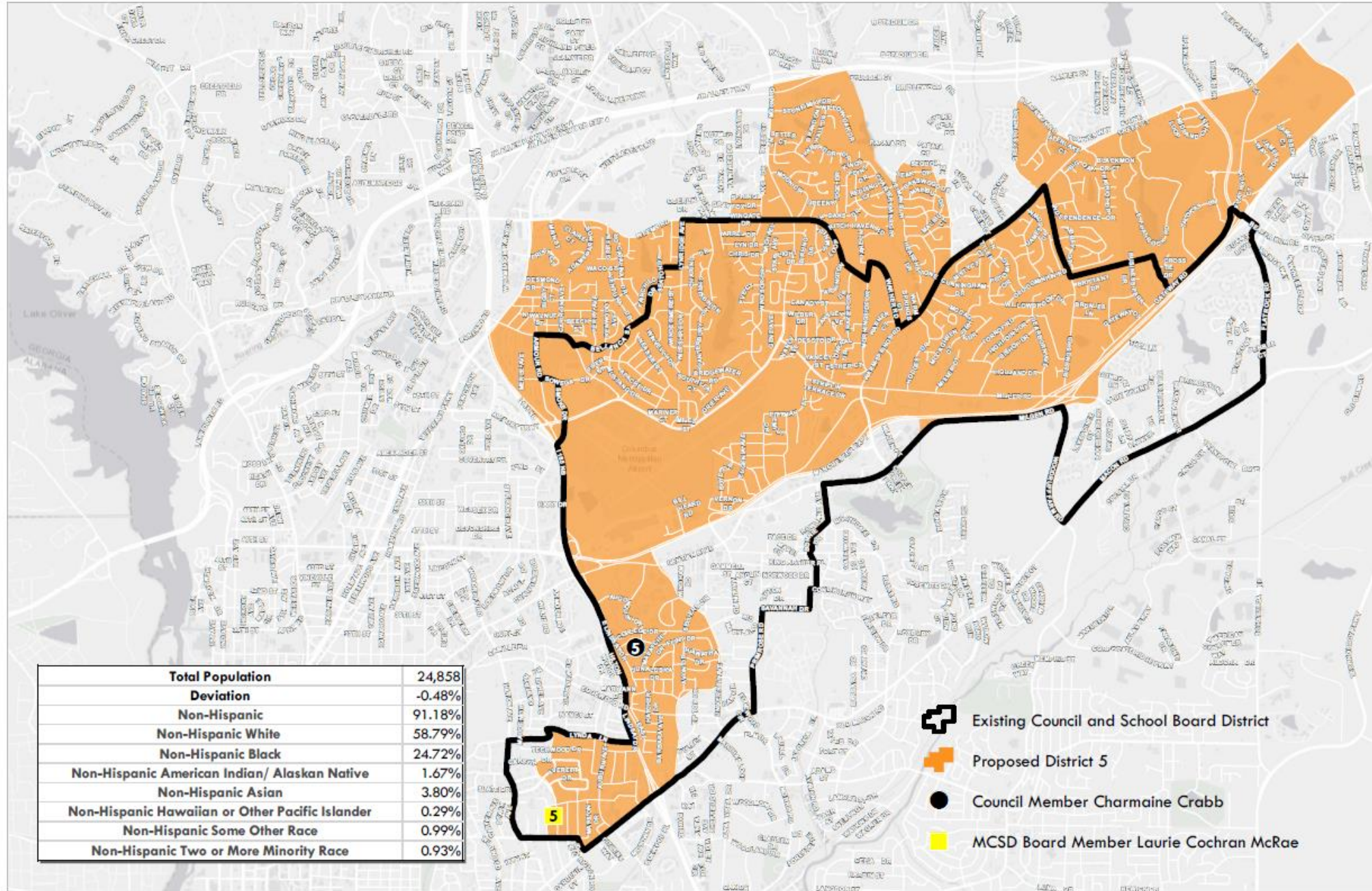
# District 4 – Comparison of Existing District with 2010 Census and 2020 Census with Existing Boundary and Scenario C Boundary

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	EXISTING DISTRICT		EXISTING DISTRICT		SCENARIO C DISTRICT	
	2010	2010 %	2020	2020 %	2020	2020 %
Black	18,606	81.14%	20,587	80.29%	19,165	76.83%
White	2,872	12.52%	3,033	11.83%	3,533	14.16%
Hispanic	944	4.12%	1,327	5.18%	1,451	5.82%
Asian	182	0.79%	174	0.68%	211	0.85%
Two or More	173	0.75%	265	1.03%	290	1.16%
Native Amer	81	0.35%	72	0.28%	91	0.36%
Other	36	0.16%	117	0.46%	135	0.54%
Pacific Islander	38	0.17%	67	0.26%	68	0.27%
TOTAL	22,932	100%	25,642	100%	24,944	100%

# Proposed Council Districts Scenario C - District 5

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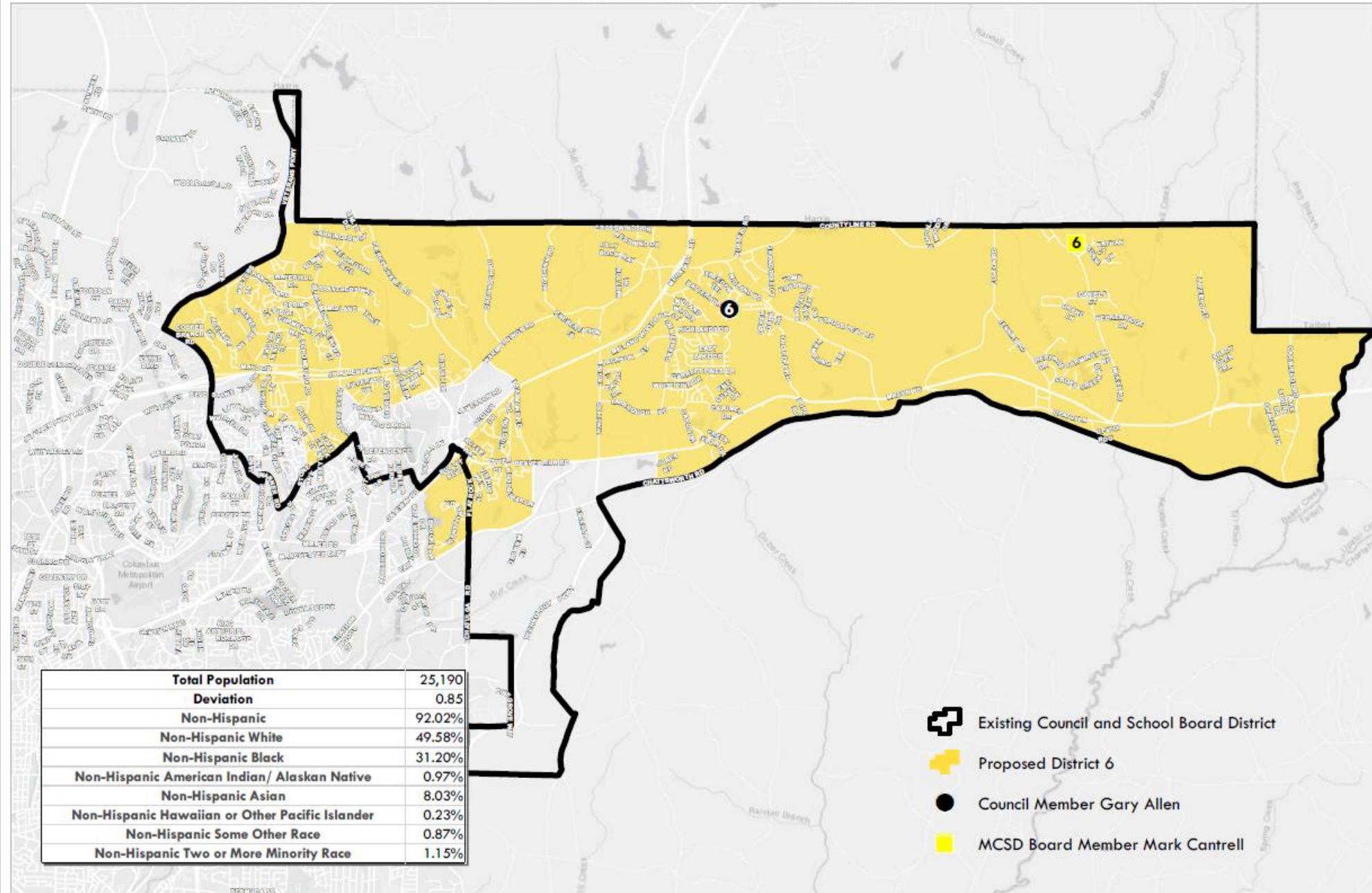
# District 5 – Comparison of Existing District with 2010 Census and 2020 Census with Existing Boundary and Scenario C Boundary

2021  
COLUMBUS  
DISTRICTING  
COMMISSION

	EXISTING DISTRICT		EXISTING DISTRICT		SCENARIO C DISTRICT	
	2010	2010 %	2020	2020 %	2020	2020 %
Black	5,318	23.66%	7,445	31.49%	6,144	24.72%
White	14,796	65.84%	12,558	53.12%	14,615	58.79%
Hispanic	1,284	5.71%	1,994	8.43%	2,192	8.82%
Asian	680	3.03%	699	2.96%	944	3.80%
Two or More	118	0.53%	262	1.11%	230	0.93%
Native Amer	136	0.61%	365	1.54%	416	1.67%
Other	76	0.34%	242	1.02%	246	0.99%
Pacific Islander	66	0.29%	77	0.33%	71	0.29%
TOTAL	22,474	100%	23,642	100%	24,858	100%

# Proposed Council Districts Scenario C - District 6

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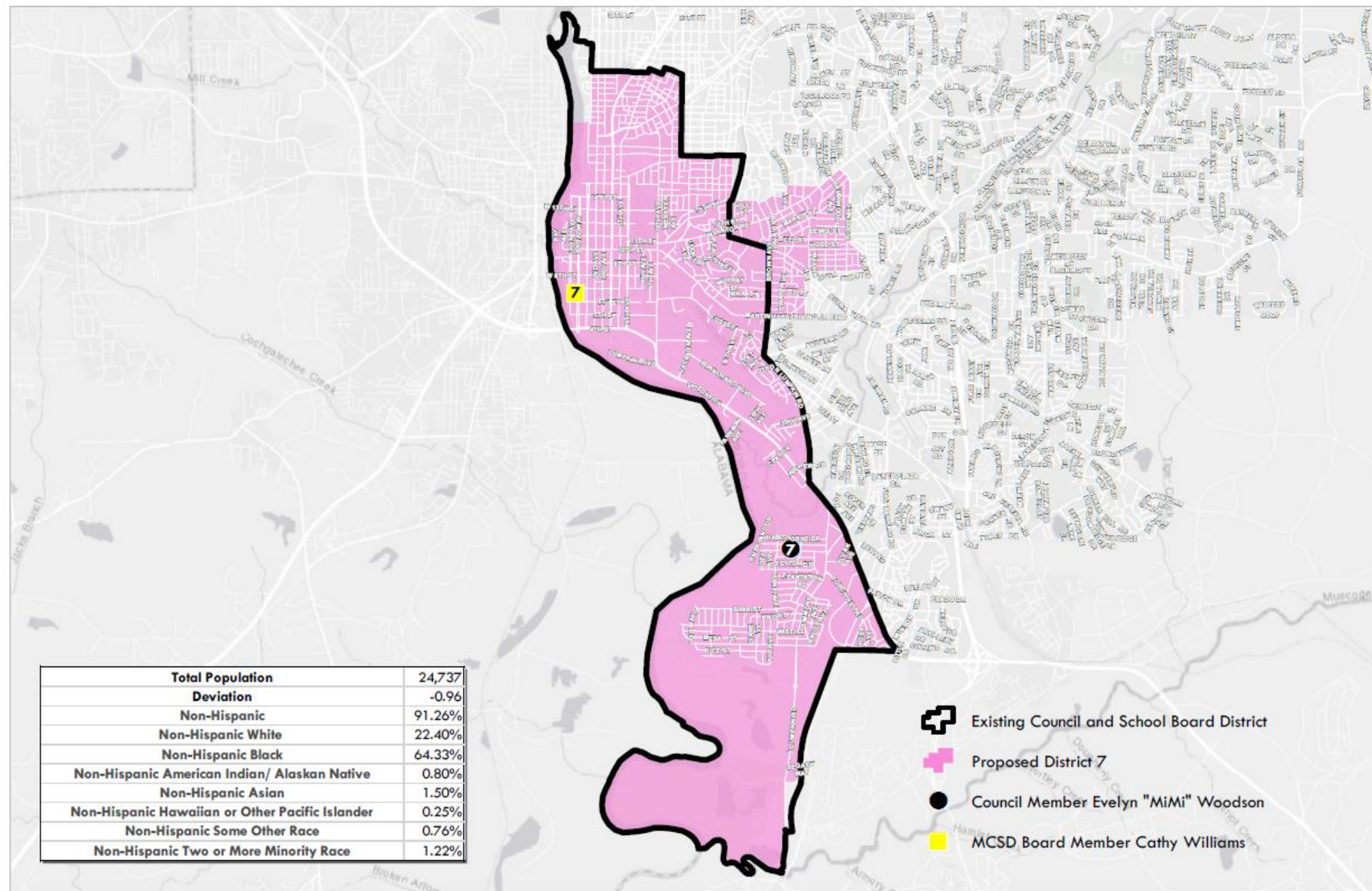
# District 6 – Comparison of Existing District with 2010 Census and 2020 Census with Existing Boundary and Scenario C Boundary

2021  
COLUMBUS  
DISTRICTING  
COMMISSION

	EXISTING DISTRICT		EXISTING DISTRICT		SCENARIO C DISTRICT	
	2010	2010 %	2020	2020 %	2020	2020 %
Black	4,908	21.58%	8,015	28.25%	7,860	31.20%
White	14,643	64.38%	14,820	52.23%	12,488	49.58%
Hispanic	1,410	6.20%	2,364	8.33%	2,010	7.98%
Asian	1,417	6.23%	2,203	7.76%	2,022	8.03%
Two or More	149	0.66%	314	1.11%	289	1.15%
Native Amer	123	0.54%	329	1.16%	244	0.97%
Other	59	0.26%	265	0.93%	219	0.87%
Pacific Islander	36	0.16%	62	0.22%	58	0.23%
TOTAL	22,745	100%	28,372	100%	25,190	100%

# Proposed Council Districts Scenario C - District 7

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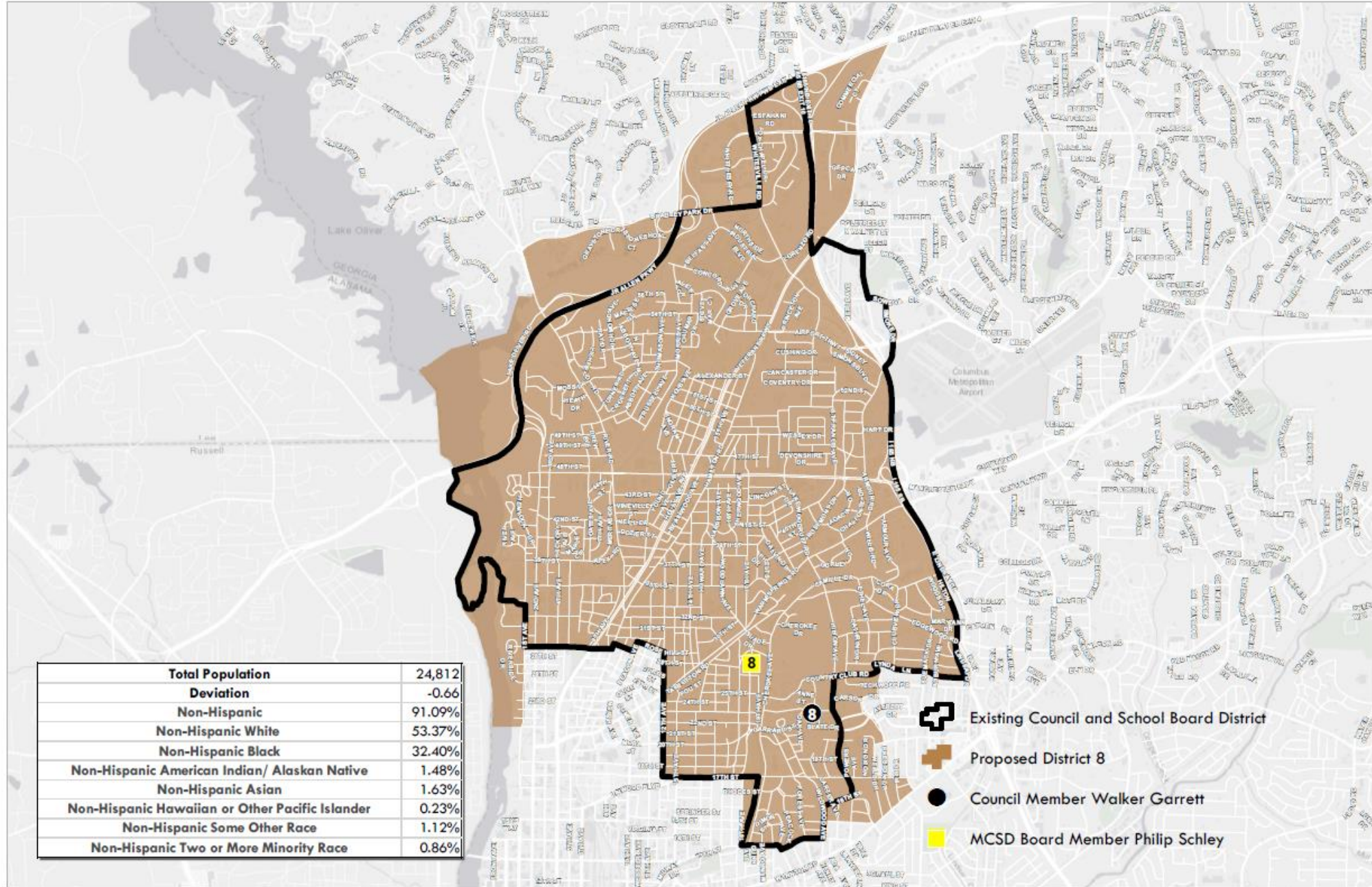
# District 7 – Comparison of Existing District with 2010 Census and 2020 Census with Existing Boundary and Scenario C Boundary

2021  
COLUMBUS  
DISTRICTING  
COMMISSION

	EXISTING DISTRICT		EXISTING DISTRICT		SCENARIO C DISTRICT	
	2010	2010 %	2020	2020 %	2020	2020 %
Black	14,340	63.33%	12,652	60.83%	15,913	64.33%
White	5,850	25.84%	5,142	24.72%	5,542	22.40%
Hispanic	1,766	7.80%	1,995	9.59%	2,163	8.74%
Asian	313	1.38%	361	1.74%	370	1.50%
Two or More	140	0.62%	248	1.19%	301	1.22%
Native Amer	140	0.62%	163	0.78%	199	0.80%
Other	55	0.24%	179	0.86%	187	0.76%
Pacific Islander	38	0.17%	58	0.28%	62	0.25%
TOTAL	22,642	100%	20,798	100%	24,737	100%

# Proposed Council Districts Scenario C - District 8

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# District 8 – Comparison of Existing District with 2010 Census and 2020 Census with Existing Boundary and Scenario C Boundary

2021  
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DISTRICTING  
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	EXISTING DISTRICT		EXISTING DISTRICT		SCENARIO C DISTRICT	
	2010	2010 %	2020	2020 %	2020	2020 %
Black	6,042	26.57%	8,091	33.32%	8,040	32.40%
White	14,153	62.24%	12,644	52.08%	13,243	53.37%
Hispanic	1,797	7.90%	2,232	9.19%	2,210	8.91%
Asian	353	1.55%	441	1.82%	405	1.63%
Two or More	155	0.68%	209	0.86%	213	0.86%
Native Amer	156	0.69%	352	1.45%	368	1.48%
Other	51	0.22%	251	1.03%	277	1.12%
Pacific Islander	34	0.15%	60	.25%	56	0.23%
TOTAL	22,741	100%	24,280	100%	24,812	100%

# Contact Information

2021  
COLUMBUS  
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